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THE FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS OF SHANGHAI.

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(Designed expressly for this Work.)

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HONGKONG, January 3rd, 1876.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, JANUARY 12TH, 1876.

Most readers will unite with the Hon. W. Keswick in condemning the action taken by Bishop Raimondi and the Roman Catholic clergy with regard to the education of Catholic children in the Colony. That there has been a good deal of interference with the parents in this matter we are able to state most positively. Bishop Raimondi has always regarded that excellent and useful institution, the Central School, with special abhorrence as a godless school, and has used his utmost endeavors to draw Catholic children from it. Within the last three months he has succeeded in getting nearly a dozen pupils from there to St. Saviour's school, and has sought to induce others to follow. Now, it is well known: fact—that all the scholars at the Central School go there voluntarily. No inducement is held out either to parents or children; it is purely optional on their part whether they take advantage of the facilities offered by Government in that establishment or not. The Portuguese show their appreciation of the educational facilities there afforded by sending their children in considerable numbers in spite of the expressed wish to the contrary of their spiritual advisers. The heads of the school have no right of authority to deny these children admission, and they have, of course, on application, invariably been received. No Scriptural education is given in the school, in order that the religious difficulty may be avoided, and because among such a mixed community it would be impossible to attempt it without exciting prejudice and ill feeling. Probably the first to complain, if the Bible were to be introduced, would be the Roman Catholic clergy.

No one would be at all disposed to blame the Roman Catholics if they preferred to send their children to schools managed by members of their own denomination. They have always been at perfect liberty to do so. If, however, the Roman Catholic schools are unable to compete in general efficiency with the Government School, it cannot be wondered at that parents should choose to send their children where they believe they will receive the best education. It is the business of the Roman Catholic clergy, if they desire that their schools should be attended by all the children belonging to their communion, to make them equal in every respect with the Central School. That establishment is already crowded to its utmost limit, and the authorities can have no desire to retain the Catholic children if their parents wish to remove them. But they will not turn away to please half a dozen bishops. So long as the Portuguese send their boys there, they will be received—always provided that there is room. The priests have a right, if they think proper, to try and persuade the members of their flock that it would be better for their children if they attended St. Saviour's or any other Catholic School rather than the purely secular Government School. Beyond persuasion, however, they have no right to go. To menace them with

communication or the withholding of ecclesiastical rites—which it is reported has been done in the case of the worst kind. For its exercise, there can, in the eyes of free men, be no justification. It is contrary to the principles and practice of true religion; it smacks more of the Inquisition than of the mild and gracious teachings of Christianity. Such tyrannical pretensions are especially repugnant to British notions of religious liberty, and they will always provoke hostility whenever advanced on British soil. No expression is so grievous and so intolerable as that which interferes with the social relations of a community. None is so calculated to lead to the rejection of authority.

It is passing strange that the teachings of experience and the facts of history are so entirely lost on the hierarchy of the Roman Church. They will not remember what has been often enough demonstrated to them, that oppression drives a wedge between the power over men's minds and wills and before long to nations to cast off allegiance to Rome. It is this fact, more than anything else, which has brought about the decline of Papal influence in France, Italy, and other Continental countries. It is mainly to the exaggerated claims of the Roman Church—the claims of the Church and the secular power is due. The clergy of the Roman Catholic Church will, however, never be subjected to restrictions or meat with discouragement in any part of the British Empire so long as they pursue their own work and refrain from assuming an aggressive attitude towards the Authorities. Their self-sacrificing efforts for the good of their people and for the conversion of the heathen entitle them to the sympathy of those who differ from them in form of faith. We are willing to give them every credit for the arduous labours by which so many of their missionaries have distinguished themselves in various parts of the heathen world, and are anxious to do them no injustice on any occasion; but duty demands that on the present occasion we should point out that attempts at coercion, however remotely they may affect Protestants, are out of harmony with the instincts and spirit of a Protestant Government and cannot be sanctioned by a free Press. It is to be hoped, therefore, that Bishop Raimondi will not persevere in his attempt to compel his people to send their children to the Roman Catholic schools. He would find Englishmen very reticent on such a point. Like Falstaff, they object to do anything on compulsion. And the Portuguese, patient and submissive as they have hitherto proved, may turn restive if the screw is applied with too much rigour. The self-styled "Vicar Apostolic of Hongkong" will therefore do well to beware how he uses his ecclesiastical thunder.

It will be noticed, on reference to our advertisement column, that Mr. Dave Carson and his son, Mr. J. P. Carson, appear in Hongkong on their return trip.

At the Marine Magistrate's Court yesterday P. O. Blake charged John Aloy master of a boat, with obstructing the survey of the British steamship *Glenview*. He was fined one dollar, and costs.

The *Imperial* states that some particulars of the Japanese Embassy at St. Petersburg have recently received the insight of the new Japanese ambassador, Count Muro, and consists of a many-colored white star, with a circle in the middle, the arrangement of the colors being similar to that of the Japanese flag. The ribbon of the order is also red with a white edge. The same paper states that in the course of the last attempt by Japan to re-establish its connection with Corea, the Koreans observed to the Japanese legation, "You have begun to dress like Europeans, and we do not therefore wish to have any dealings with you. Dress as you did formerly, and we will again be your good neighbors."

There have recently been some reports of shipments of plain American cotton goods to the Kingdom. Inquiries made on the subject show that the goods are sent to the Kingdom in the regular course of trade, and are an exceptional venture on the part of a large American manufacturing establishment. The goods are sent to the Kingdom in the regular course of trade, and are an exceptional venture on the part of a large American manufacturing establishment.

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POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

11th January.

BYRON'S HON. C. MAY.

ASSASSINATING A SERVANT.

On the 11th inst. Mr. Williams, a married man, John Williams, of the Hong Kong Repository for amending and printing, was charged with the murder of his servant, a Chinese man, who was found dead in the street.

The complaint against the defendant came up in his own name, and he was charged with the murder of his servant, a Chinese man, who was found dead in the street.

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with red clothes, stating that they were blind, and that the steamship was from their own village, being that day and night with overhanging clouds, edged with elaborate carved upon or carved upon, giving it the appearance of a temple. The steamship was from their own village, being that day and night with overhanging clouds, edged with elaborate carved upon or carved upon, giving it the appearance of a temple.

Some of the Shanghai junks presented quite a new appearance, as if fresh from the docks, contrasting brightly with the general dinginess around them. The sails, in every instance, were carefully folded, and a very neat and tidy appearance was presented.

The upper parts of the junks were adorned with a succession of flags, and the lower parts were adorned with a succession of flags, and the lower parts were adorned with a succession of flags.

Next we passed much shorter junks, with here and there a solitary junk, yet not solitary, being surrounded by smaller craft, and a great number of the boats of the junks were taking in or discharging their cargoes at sundry wharves.

Some were laden with rice, bean, cabbage, grain, and planks, others with various goods, and some were laden with various goods, and some were laden with various goods.

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